

Message Text

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SUBJ: GENERAL AMAN RELIEVED OF POST

ADDIS ABABA -- LT GENERAL AMAN MICHAEL ANDOM, CHAIRMAN OF ETHIOPIA'S PROVISIONAL MILITARY COUNCIL (PMAC) WAS RELIEVED OF DUTY TONIGHT (SATURDAY), ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY (ENA).

THE FIFTY-YEAR OLD WAR HERO AND FORMER SENATOR WAS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THE PMAC ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1974, FOLLOWING THE DEPOSITION OF EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE I.

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF THE ENA ANNOUNCEMENT:

ADDIS ABABA, NOV. 23 (ENA)-- THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (PMAC) ANNOUNCED TONIGHT ITS DECISION RELIEVING H.E. LT.GEN. AMAN MIKAEL ANDOM AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL EFFECTIVE TODAY THE PMAC GAVE 8 REASONS FOR ITS DECISION RELIEVING GEN. AMAN OF HIS POST AND SAID THAT A NEW CHAIRMAN WILL BE NAMED SOON FROM OUTSIDE THE 120-MAN MILITARY COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL SAID IN A PREPARED STATEMENT THAT THE NEW CHAIRMAN
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WILL BE SELECTED FOR HIS INTEGRITY AND ABILITY TO SHOULDER THIS

HIGH NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

THE REASONS GIVEN BY THE COUNCIL FOR ITS DECISION WERE:

1. THE AIMS OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT IN ETHIOIA AND TO MAKE THE PEOPLE MASTERS OF THEIR OWN DESTINY. YET GEN. AMAN SHOWED THE TENDENCY OF A DICTATORIAL LEADER IN HIS ACTIONS DESPITE THAT FACT THAT THE COUNTRY WAS RECENTLY FREED FROM THREE THOUSAND YEARS OF OPPRESSIVE RULE.
2. ALTHOUGH HE IS RESPONSIBLE TO THE COUNCIL IN ALL HIS ACTIONS, GEN. AMAN FAILED TO INFORM THE COUNCIL ON IMPORTANT DECISIONS AFFECTING THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THE COUNTRY AND SPECIALLY THE SET UP OF ITS DEFENCE. HE TOOK UNILATERAL ACTION TO ENGAGE THE SERVICE OF A FOREIGN MILITARY ADVISOR FOR REASONS KNOWN ONLY TO HIM AND SECRETLY SENT BACK TO HIS HOME THE MILITARY ADVISOR WITHOUT INFORMING THE COUNCIL AS TO WHY THE ADVISOR WAS BROUGHT HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
3. THE GENERAL HAD ABUSED HIS AUTHORITY AND THE VERY HIGH RESPONSIBILITY BESTOWED UPON HIM BY FAILING TO ATTEND MEETINGS AT WHICH IMPORTANT NATIONAL POLICIES WERE DISCUSSED AND FORMULATED, THUS OBSTRUCTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNCIL'S DECISIONS.
4. THE GENERAL CONCURRENTLY HELD A NUMBER OF POSTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT UNTIL CAPABLE PERSONS WERE CAREFULLY SELECTED TO FILL THESE POSTS. HOWEVER, WHEN HE WAS ASKED TO RELINQUISH THE POSTS, HE WAS NOT ONLY UNCOOPERATIVE BUT ALSO RESENTFUL.
5. ALTHOUGH LEADERSHIP WAS NOT LACKING, THE COUNCIL FELT A FREQUENT CHANGE OF LEADERS MAY LEAD TO UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT ETHIOPIA'S FOREIGN POLICY AND ALSO WEAKEN THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY. TO THIS END, THE COUNCIL REPEATEDLY APPEALED TO GEN. AMAN FOR GOODWILL AND COOPERATION TO WHICH HE RESPONDED UNFAVOURABLY.
6. FURTHERMORE, HE USED DUBIOUS MEANS TO WEAKEN AND CREATE MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE POPULAR MOVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE AND THE ARMED FORCES BY GIVING UNATTAINABLE PROMISES TO ADVANCE HIS OWN POPULARITY WHILE FULLY AWARE THE EXTENT OF ETHIOPIA'S PRESSING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.
7. WHILE HE WAS IN A POSITION TO SUBMIT HIS RESIGNATION DIRECTLY TO THE COUNCIL, GEN. AMAN ATTEMPTED TO SOW THE SEEDS OF DISCORD BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES AND THE COUNCIL BY TRYING TO COMMUNICATE SECRETLY WITH VARIOUS UNITS OF THE ARMED FORCES FROM AMONG WHOSE RANKS THE COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE SELECTED.
8. WHEN ASKED TO EXPLAIN HIS ACTIONS AS TO WHY HE HAD FAILED TO CARRY OUT THE HEAVY RESPONSIBILITIES ENTRUSTED UPON HIM BY THE

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ENTIRE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE AND THE ARMED FORCES, GEN. AMAN REFUSED TO MEET WITH THE COUNCIL. ITEM.
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